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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 09/108,463 | MULLENS ET AL. |
| | Examiner Toan D Nguyen | Art Unit 2665 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 1/12/04.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-29 are renumber 1-9, respectively.
3. The drawings filed on 01 July 1998 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.



ALPUS H. HSU
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

Examiner Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Lawrence J. Chapa on March 16, 2004.

2. The application has been amended as follows;

IN THE CLAIMS:

~~Claims 1-20 have been cancelled.~~

The above examiner's amendment was made to clarify the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding to claim 21, the prior art fails to teach a combination of the steps of:

creating the IP packet comprising:

a virtual internet protocol address corresponding to a plurality of physical end nodes served by an access point; and

a data field comprising:

a destination identification corresponding to one of the physical end nodes of the plurality of physical end nodes, said one of the physical end nodes being a destination for the IP packet; and

user data;

communicating the IP packet to a first access point, serving a plurality of physical end nodes, over an RF network including one or more access points, communicatively coupled to one another, wherein at least some of the access points, each, serve one or more physical end nodes, via one or more wireless communication links, and one or more of the access points are connected to a wire network;

transmitting, by the first access point, the IP packet;
decoding, by the plurality of physical end nodes served by the first access point, the data field of the IP packet for determining the destination identification of the IP packet; and
determining by each of the plurality of physical end nodes whether it is the destination for the IP packet, in the specific combination as recited in the claim.

Regarding to claim 28, the prior art fails to teach a combination of the steps of:
a wired network;
a first access point operable for communication via a first wireless link;
a first plurality of physical end nodes communicating with the first access point via the first wireless link, sharing a first virtual internet protocol address and, each, having a separate destination identification included within a data field of any IP packets intended for the corresponding physical end node; and
a second access point connected to the wired network and to the first access point via a second wireless link, in the specific combination as recited in the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan D Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-0140. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday (7:00AM-4:30PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Huy Vu can be reached on 703-308-6602. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-9600.

TN
T.N.



ALPLUS H. HSU
PRIMARY EXAMINER